

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONS**

At Page 5 of the current specification, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 3-13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Additionally, in a conventional SOFC, the electrode materials and the electrolyte material are different from each other, so that the thermal expansion coefficients of these different materials cannot be precisely equalized, and accordingly thermal ~~strain~~strain tends to take place. This problem can be alleviated by the above described graded (i.e., gradient) composition in the interface, but the graded composition is not intended to equalize the thermal expansion coefficients, and hence is not a fundamental solution; moreover, the formation of graded composition layers requires substantial labor and cost.